MUSEUM SERVICE BULLETIN OF THE ROCHESTER MUSEUM OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

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Murre



Mourning Dove



Sparrow Hawk

Ruby-throated

Hummingbird



BIRD'S EGGS





MUSEUM SERVICE

Bulletin of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences

Vol. 40 Nos. 3 and 4 March - April 1967

Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, founded by Mayor Hiram Edgerton in 1912, started as the Municipal Museum in Edgerton Park. It was reorganized in 1925 under a Commission and renamed Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences. The building on East Avenue, the gift of Edward and Matilda Bausch in 1940—Dedicated to a Better Understanding of the Laws of Nature and the Cultural Achievements of Mankind—is operated by the City of Rochester as a community center for research and education.

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Photographs William G. Frank

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MUSEUM ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 1966

Improvements, changes and broader educational programs at the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences reflected a trend throughout the country of more public demand upon museums. The Board of Museum Commissioners and our staff can look with pride at a highly active year of accomplishment.

It is obvious that progressive museums are updating and expanding exhibits and public services. Simultaneously, curators are pursuing their equally important functions of acquiring, caring for, studying and interpreting the rich, three dimensional material—the heritage of the past, the record of the present—which is their domain.

On June 28, the Rochester Museum Association revealed plans and a model of the Strasenburgh Planetarium which showed the physical appearance of the new structure. It can be said to resemble a snail shell or even a spiral nebula. The enthusiastic reception and favorable opinion of this concept, with its educational and cultural potential for Rochester, was an important factor in the Museum Association membership campaign in mid-November. The Association gained over 2,600 new members and \$87,000 to operate the planetarium and enlarge support of museum activities.

Innovations in education included expansion of the Junior Guides program for science-oriented high school students and lectures for the visually handicapped. There was an increase in school classes and lectures of 2,685 people, and attendance at the Sunday Family Film Programs grew by 12%. Over-all attendance in the building was 168,697 persons representing an increase of 20%.

The announcement in July of Mrs. E. Lewis Burnham's gift to construct the first unit of the Hall of Human Biology was exciting news.

Two outstanding concluding events of a busy year were Know Your Museum Week, Oct. 29-Nov. 5, which featured an Open House, and a highly successful 28th Annual Convocation on November 4, when the Civic Medal was presented to the Reverend Thomas B. Richards.

W. STEPHEN THOMAS, Director

Bird Egg Exhibit

Jerry H. Czech Assistant Curator of Biology

> Cover Picture—Bird's Eggs Pen and ink drawing by Jerry H. Czech.

At one time, collecting bird eggs was quite a popular hobby. It could be carried on by young and old and, with a seemingly endless supply of material, it had appeal for many. Value of the eggs could be determined by their beauty or by the difficulty involved in obtaining them. The value of some eggs made money-minded persons attempt to specialize in them, thus a number of rarer birds were brought just that much closer to extinction.

Fortunately, egg collectors and egg collecting are now things of the past. While some men, such as Arthur Cleveland Bent, contributed to ornithology through accurate accounts of their activity, the damage done by some is hard to overestimate. In many cases adult birds were killed for positive identification, and birds that attempted re-nesting often had successive sets of eggs stolen until the bird, or collector, finally gave up.

With this in mind, I thought that museum visitors might enjoy seeing some of the eggs in our collection. The eggs were selected from seven major bird groupings and show some of the more beautifully colored variety, as well as those which are typical.

The shell, which is the only part of the egg preserved, (the rest is drained out), is the last step in the formation of an egg by a bird. Beauty is truly "skin deep" here, for the base layers of the eggshell are whitish. The colors and patterns we see are usually only on or very near the shell surface.

1. Perching Birds

The eggs of these birds often show no great degree of protective coloring or adaptive shape. Many are white or pale bluish with some degree of darker marking and are relatively uncolorful. I included the birds and their nests because they may be found nesting in Monroe County.

2. Waterbirds

Eggs of many waterbirds (a general term) show striking patterns and shapes even though brighter colors are usually absent. Many of the birds so classified construct little or no nest. but rather scoop out a small depression in sand or pebbles. The blotchy coloration serves to destroy the egg's outline and helps it blend into its surroundings. Some of the eggs, such as the murre's, have an unusual shape. Since they build no nest and lay their eggs directly on seacliff ledges, the highly tapered shape of the egg supposedly keeps it from rolling off. Instead, when bumped, it tends to roll in a small circle.

It is interesting to note that many heron eggs, such as those of the great blue heron, are bluish or pale. This is possibly because most herons nest where pressure from ground predators is reasonably reduced.

3. Shorebirds

These eggs are often surprisingly large for the size of the birds. Most are pale tan or whitish with darker spotting and blotches.

Some of these birds build slight nests, while others build none at all. At best, there is only a rearranging of material close at hand, and the nests are on the ground—usually in fields and commonly in tundra since many nest in arctic regions. The color pattern of the eggs has value in imitation of the sand, pebbles or lichen that surround them and they are amazingly difficult to discover.

4. Waterfowl

Most all eggs are unmarked and range in color from creamy-white to pale blues, greens and browns. Ducks nesting in tree cavities (goldeneyes, wood ducks, etc.) usually lay whitish eggs.

The greater majority of waterfowl nest on the ground, constructing their nest with reeds, grasses and lined with down feathers specially plucked from the female's breast. The nest is not always near water but is generally located in dense grass or brush for concealment.

Although many of the eggs are fairly conspicuous in the nest, protective coloration doesn't have an important role as the parent bird carefully covers the eggs with grass, leaves and down when leaving. Crows often see the eggs and eat them when the parent leaves the nest carelessly.

5. Predatory Birds

Falcons typically lay tannish colored eggs heavily speckled with brown or lavender. (A factor which made them popular with collectors.)

Most falcons build no nest, but rather scoop out a slight depression in decaying plant material or pebbles on a rocky ledge. The color makes them difficult to see against such a background. Sparrow hawks nest in tree cavities, etc., but the color of their eggs doesn't differ greatly from that of other falcons.

Most hawk, eagle and vulture eggs are whitish with little or much spotting of brown, red-brown, or orange-brown. Eggs laid by different members of the same species may differ tremendously and to a degree correspond with geographical location. Highly protective coloration is lacking in most, but the aggressive nature of the adult birds tends to keep them reasonably safe from harm.

Owl eggs are pale, usually white, and are nearly oval. Many owls nest in some sort of crevice and those that nest openly protect their eggs much the same as hawks do. While the eggs lack protective coloring, the incubating bird is usually protectively colored so that the sitting bird conceals the eggs. Some owls nest quite early and the great-horned owl has been found incubating in February.

6. Gamebirds

The mourning dove, while not a gamebird in New York State, is considered as such in much of the United States. The woodcock is a shorebird, but usually thought of as a gamebird, and is also included in this grouping.

Most of the "chickenlike" birds (grouse, quail, pheasants, etc.) lay pale brown or greenish colored eggs. The nest, often containing nearly a dozen eggs, is on the ground and located protectively. The parent bird is more often than not also protec-

tively colored and uses this advantage by sitting motionless on the eggs until all seems hopeless other than to abandon them. Actually, the eggs are difficult to see when left unguarded and a few leaves placed on them by accident, or on purpose, adds the "final touch."

7. Odd Eggs

This includes four eggs notable for their size or texture, largest of which is the ostrich egg. This egg, while the largest produced by any presently living bird, is the smallest in comparison to the size of the bird laying it. A small piece of shell near the egg shows the thickness of the eggshell.

The emu egg is also large but is most peculiar due to the heavily textured shell. This large bird resembles the ostrich slightly and, like the ostrich, is a ground nester.

The tinamou egg is noted for its smooth, glass-like finish. The color ranges from greens, blues, yellows and browns, depending upon the species; however, all have the glossy shell.

Last, and least of the four eggs, is that of the ruby-throated humming-bird. The egg is tiny, but so is the bird, and the egg is actually one of the largest in comparison to the size of the adult bird. (Thinking back now, if I were to have a choice of which I'd rather be, guess it would be "easier" to be an ostrich!) Most "hummers" lay two white eggs in a nest made of spiderweb and lichens.

Now, in summing up the exhibit, I might mention that the amazing ways of adaptability in nature provides the assortment seen. You may be sure that each egg color, shape or size is the result of much natural "weeding out," and probably fits the purpose to the fullest degree.

Ceramics From Jacksonville — A Mid-19th Century Community In Western New York

Charles F. Hayes, III Curator of Anthropology

Archeology and history were once again combined in a ceramic sampling of a mid-19th century village site by the anthropology division of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences in the summer of 1966. The project was part of the division's continuing documentation of non-Indian historic sites in western New York in order to satisfy an increasing number of identification requests by both archeologists and the general public.

The area that was formerly Jack-sonville (Hne 39-4) lies along the Hemlock Outlet in Livonia township, Livingston County, N. Y. The site itself is now primarily located on property owned by the City of Rochester Water Works and Herbert T. Hayton of Richmond. It is to the latter that Rochester Museum is grateful for permission to conduct the survey and obtain a surface collection. A total of three days was spent at the site.

Historical Background

Many communities in western New York were begun with high expectations of future development, but for some reason had to be abandoned. Jacksonville was one of these villages. The historical references to this relatively short-lived community are few. The author is indebted to Mrs. Lois Wilkins, Livonia Town Historian; Mrs. Marie Preston, Livingston County Historian and to the personnel of the County Clerk's office for their efforts in securing photostats of deeds and maps of the area for the museum's file.

James H. Smith (1881) writes: "...about a mile north of this place (Hemlock Lake or Slab City) at an early date, was situated a thriving little village known as Jacksonville. It contained a distillery, cloth dressing works, grist mill, a store and a considerable number of dwellings. The



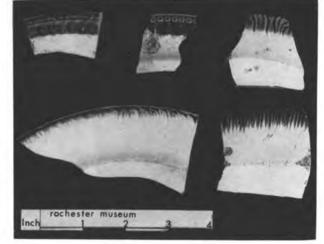
Site of former Village of Jacksonville (looking east) in the township of Livonia, Livingston County, New York. Road runs approximately through center of former village.

place was laid out into lots duly numbered and indications were that in time it would become a village of no mean proportions. Its existence, however, was comparatively brief; the village lots have long since been transformed into farming lands and nothing now remains of its prosperity."

Concerning the distillery at Slab City, Doty (1905:777) mentions: "This distillery was the oldest in the town, and it became so successful that in the year 1827 Ichabod A. Holden built another a mile north of Slab City, at a thriving little settlement containing a grist mill, a fulling mill, a saw mill and a dry goods store; all of which he had created and made so prosperous, chiefly owing to the enterprise and push of their owner, that the place was called Holdenville at first, and later was known as Jacksonville. So much business was done there that it was for many years a formidable rival of its neighboring city of Slabs. It had more than a score of houses, with blacksmith, cooper and shoe shops, and was quite a center of trade, with a good grain market. Many farmers are still living in town, who used to draw Mr. Holden's flour from the mill to Canandaigua and Pittsford for about three shillings per barrel. Today but one house or building of this once busy ville is left. The mills and even the dam are all gone, and like old Jerusalem 'not one stone upon another is to be seen'."

A plan was made of Jacksonville in 1830 by E. Calkins, Esqr. and provides locations and dimensions of the numbered lots, the public square, two mills, the mill race and the mill pond. One of these maps (incomplete) is on file in the Livingston County Court House with file number 463. Another one is in the possession of Miss Birdie McGrossen of Hemlock, N. Y. On the basis of this plan, it was possible to survey the former village area with a

Ceramic fragments from Jacksonville



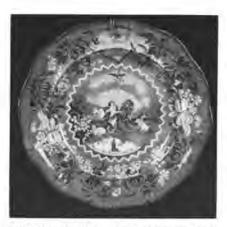
Featheredged Creamware. Decorative edge in blue, except upper right in green.



Scenic Transfer Printed
Earthenware. (left to
right) top, Tyrolean,
Swiss; bottom,
Millenium (inscription
"Peace on Earth"),
Palestine pattern
border.



Scenic Transfer Printed Earthenware. (left to right) top, Columbia College; bottom, States (border), Historic Elm, Pittsfield, Mass. (border).



Millenium Pattern Plate in Sepia from the Culture History Division, Rochester Museum.

fair degree of accuracy despite the alteration of the terrain by construction and farm operations throughout the last 50 to 75 years.

An investigation of some of the available deeds to the area did reveal the succession of owners of various portions of Jacksonville, Information, however, concerning the existence of houses on the southern part of the site where the ceramics were obtained. was limited to a map of Livingston County, N. Y. presently in the office of the County Historian. This was a survey by Rea and Otley in 1852 (dated 1853) and published by Turner Bishop & Co., Geneseo, N. Y. It shows two houses south of the Big Tree Road, where the archeological survey was made. Gillette's map of Livingston County in an 1858 atlas published by J. H. French, Syracuse, N. Y., also in the County Historian's office, has no reference to Tacksonville. Although no documentary evidence could be found, it has been suggested that the running of a railroad through the center of Livonia township was a factor in the eventual abandonment of the village. A New York State Education Department marker now stands approximately in the center of the site by the road.

Method of Analysis

In a relatively new field such as 19th century archeology, there had to be a starting point in the assembling of the ceramic data. It was decided that an easily expanded numerical system should be used. This scheme would then provide for what has been termed in archeology a key for the identification of new artifacts (Rouse 1960: 317). The following format has been used in the analysis of these and other western New York ceramics. An arbi-

trary number of attributes has been considered in developing a registry.

Type Number Design Color
Provenience Design Motif
Paste Color Application
Paste Hardness
Background Color Suggested Names
and Dates

Eventually a classification system may be developed so that individual types will be related to known ceramic varieties of earthenware and stoneware. It is quite possible that a classification in the strict archeological sense may not be necessary because the potsherds often will fall into already established categories with known origins and published descriptions. In this case the registry will merely serve as a convenient research tool. The development of such a registry is not without its problems. Many ceramic artifacts from well known potteries cannot be easily identified because of their fragmentary nature. In addition archeologists, antique dealers and non-Indian ceramic specialists do not use the same terminology in regard to names, types, classifications, descriptions and makers.

Jacksonville Ceramics

The several varieties of earthenware that have so far been identified from the site can be grouped into the following known broad categories:

Banded Creamware
Blue and Green Featheredged
Creamware
Transfer Printed Earthenware
Spatterware
Buff and Brown Wares
Redware

Research into the patterns on the sherds of transfer printed earthenware has supported documentary evidence as to the temporal range of the site



States Pattern Plate in Blue (marked Clews Warranted Staffordshire) from the Culture History Division, Rochester Museum.

in the 19th century. The following English potters have been identified by pottery marks or sherds from the site: William Adams & Sons (1830-1845), Davenport (1793-1876), W. Ridgway & Co. (1814-1858), Ralph & James Clews (1819-1835), R. Stevenson and R. Stevenson & Sons (1815-1840). Patterns identified include "Ivanhoe," "Tyrolean," "Willow," "Millenium," "Swiss," "Oriental," and "Picturesque Views" (Laidacker 1951, 1954).

Other artifacts recovered from the site include varieties of glassware, brick fragments, kaolin pipes and metal buttons,

It must be pointed out that the ceramics from Jacksonville were not uncommon in their time, probably being readily available items for purchase in an economically growing community. The collection of ceramics from the Jacksonville site will contribute to the understanding of one aspect of daily life in western New York in the mid-19th century. It will also aid in identifying and dating the many other sites of this period which remain historically poorly documented.

Note—The initial analysis and research in the fall of 1966 on the Jacksonville ceramics was accomplished to a great extent through the efforts of Miss Mary Leary and Mr. Daniel M. Barber, both of the Rochester Museum's anthropology division.

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Ivory Dominoes of 1851.

The Game of Dominoes

Gladys Reid Holton Curator of History

Benjamin Franklin confirms the fact that there were toys and games for sale in Boston in the early 1700's—this represented a great change in New England where only a few years before play had been forbidden. All during the first quarter of the 18th century there was strong emphasis on piety but the attitude was changing—games were frowned upon in some groups but those opposed no longer stopped those who wanted to have a good time playing them.

The game of dominoes was one of the many enjoyed by people through the centuries. Even as far back as the Romans there was a species of flat dice not unlike dominoes in appearance but the game played with them was unlike that of the mid-18th century.

The game of dominoes is said to have originated in Italy and to have been invented in a monastery as a harmless amusement of the monks; from there it went to France, then to Germany and England and then to the United States.

In Haney's Handbook of Dominoes, published in 1867, it says, "It is now played in every coffee-house, beer saloon and place of public resort, and is a favorite evening game in private families." Another writer says that, "Dominoes were favorites in the parlors of 1880 and in every decade thereafter."

Dominoes are made of ebony, ivory, bone, wood or plastic in the shape of a parallelogram or double square. There are 28 in a set, the face of each is divided into two compartments. each either being blank or with pips numbering from one to six. They are named, for example, double-six, sixfive, six-four, six-trey, six-deuce, sixace, six-blank and so on down to the double-blank. One set said to have been made in France around 1860 has mother-of-pearl points set in a stonelike composition. At the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences there is a set made of metal.

Machines for making dominoes were invented by J. W. Hyatt, Jr., of Albany, New York, who established The Embossing Company with his brother in 1870.

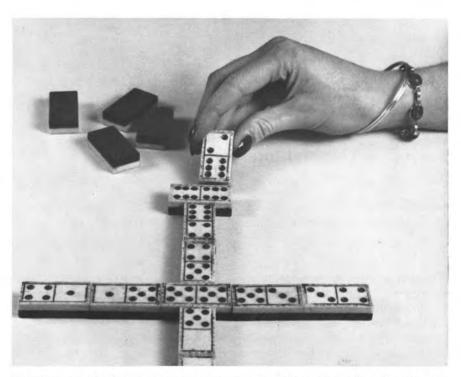
In a book *The Manufacturers of Albany*, it says, "For the manufacture of dominoes a long strip of wood is placed in a wonderful little automatic machine which saws it up into blocks without any further attention. The saw cuts so smoothly that an actual polish is left on the block and sandpapering is superfluous.

"In spite of a production of 450 gross sets of dominoes in 1872 they were unable to fill all their orders.

"In 1957 Halsam Products, founded in 1919, took over the Embossing Company of Albany, New York, which had manufactured blocks and dominoes since they were established in 1870. Now a Halsam machine made dominoes with almost no attention as the black hardwood blocks moved forward the varying numbers of white dots were added and when the dominoes reached the end of the machine, they slid into a box that held the requisite number for a complete set, already sorted. This machine turned out 8000 complete sets of dominoes each day and the demand was such that it never stopped working except for occasional repair and cleaning."

There are rules for the following domino games in Haney's Handbook: "Block and Draw," "All Fives or Muggins," "All Threes," "Threes and Fives," "Domino Whist," "Matador," "Bergen Game," "Sebastopal," "Domino Loo," "Cyprus," "Bingo," "Rounce," "Eucher" and "Vingt-un."

It is of interest to read the description of the "Came of Fives" which always seemed to be the most popular one with children. The rule goes this way-"Five pieces are drawn by each player, the highest double leads first, and after the first hand the lead goes around in rotation to the left-hand player. After the first hand has been played the lead can be made with any piece chosen. If six-four or double-five be led it counts ten; if four-ace, treydeuce, or five-blank it counts five. In setting, the player who can set a piece that will make the two ends count five, or any multiple thereof, adds the number to his score. If one cannot play in his turn he draws until he can, but he must play when he has drawn one that will match. He who plays out first cries, 'Muggins' and adds the spots in his opponents hand to his score. In counting up it is always by a multiple of five. The score is two hundred when two play or one hundred and fifty if three or more are in the game."



Dominoes of whalebone made by author's grandfather, Philip Chapin, who was a seaman from 1838-1855.

Surveying Youthful Interests

Robert W. Frasch
Head, Division of Educational Services

Educational programs in museums are evolving to meet the needs of a rapidly changing society. Activities that were popular with one generation of children may not continue to appeal to another generation that has witnessed the space age and television.

During the fall of 1966, a survey was undertaken by the education division to determine more exactly the type of programs now desired by children. Questionnaires were mailed to the approximately 600 children who had enrolled in the museum's Saturday and summer programs during the previous year. About half of the children responded with their choices and some delightful comments. A tabulation of the replies now provides the education division with a wealth of information concerning vouthful interests eliminates much of the guess work when planning future programs.

On the questionnaire, thirty-one topics were listed. Children were requested to check only those that interested them. When tabulated by school grade level, as in the accompanying chart, the results illuminate the changing interests of children. Already this data has been used in

planning our winter program (January 14-February 18) of Saturday classes. "Animals" for grades one and two and "Rocks and Fossils" for grades three and four are obviously popular choices. The great need for a planetarium is strongly indicated. At the junior high level, the space sciences are of major interest.

Youth of the high school age are conspicuously absent from the survey since few enrolled in the museum's programs during the last year and thus were not on our mailing lists. Greater efforts will be made to discover teenage interests and to incorporate them into future programs.

When tabulated in different ways, the survey can uncover a wealth of specialized information of real value in planning educational programs. From this sampling, we learned that the natural sciences were favored over the social sciences in a two to one ratio. Summer classes were considered most popular, followed by Saturday classes, but children were definitely not interested in after-school learning activities on weekdays.

Whether as educators or parents, it is wise to listen when children speak.

Topic Preferences by Grade Level

GRADE LEVEL	1ST CHOICE	2ND CHOICE	3RD CHOICE	4TH CHOICE	5TH CHOICE	6TH CHOICE
PRE- SCHOOL	ANIMALS	INDIANS	PUPPETS	NATURE	INSECTS	PLANTS INSECTS ROCKS MINERALS *FOSSILS
157	ANIMALS	NATURE	PUPPETS	*INDIANS	PEOPLE OF OTHER LANDS	PUPPETS PREHISTORIC- MAN *INDIANS
2ND	ANIMALS	SPACE- SCIENCES	NATURE	PEOPLE OF OTHER LANDS	*ROCKS MINERALS FOSSILS	PUPPETS PREHISTORIC- MAN
3RD	*ROCKS FOSSILS MINERALS	*ANIMALS REPTILES	*SPACE SCIENCES	NATURE	MICROSCOPIC LIFE	PUPPETS PREHISTORIC- MAN
ATH	NATURE	ANIMALS	WIDE RANGE OF GEN NO PARTICULAR FAVO	IERAL INTEREST ON M	OST TOPICS WITH	
5TH	*ANIMALS REPTILES	*SPACE- SCIENCES	*ROCKS MINERALS FOSSILS	PREHISTORIC- MAN	MICROSCOPIC LIFE OCEANOGRAPHY CHEMISTRY	
6ТН	*ASTRONOMY	*ROCK MINERALS FOSSILS	MICROSCOPIC LIFE CHEMISTRY OCEANOGRAPHY PHOTOGRAPHY			
7TH	*ASTRONOMY	PEOPLE OF OTHER LANDS	CHEMISTRY	NATURE	MICROSCOPIC LIFE PHOTOGRAPHY	HUMAN- BIOLOGY
8TH	*SPACE- SCIENCES	CHEMISTRY	*HISTORY ANTHROPOLOGY			

^{*}INCLUDES RELATED TOPICS

The Gilded Age, 1880-1910

Nancy R. Rosenberg Educational Assistant



Victorian Lamp of the late 19th Century.

The Gilded Age, 1880-1910 is remembered best as the happy Gay Nineties, the Age of Opulence or the garish Victorian period. It was the age of self-made millionaires; it capsuled the bicycling fad, the Gibson Girl, melodrama, vaudeville and moving pictures.

This was a stirring period of industrial expansion, urbanization, new growth of cities, dominance of the railroad and inventions. Many Americans were secure and complacently self-satisfied with their environmental comforts.

Yet it was grandeur limited. There were the poor who worked in the sweat shops, lived in tenements and engaged in union battles to obtain a living wage. Few of the affluent knew them and fewer cared.

The grandeur and the gaudiness of "The Gilded Age, 1880-1910," the middle class and the poor of this sumptuous period are represented in an exhibit on the mezzanine floor until June 12.

An unusual selection of objects from the museum's collections will interpret the economic and social concepts. This will be especially helpful to 7th grade students who are now studying the Gilded Age, a unit of the new state curriculum. An annotated reading list of books, compiled by the Rochester Public Library, will be available at the exhibit.

This period in history highlighted the city. It was the end of the frontier movement, and Currier and Ives portraved city people looking longingly and nostalgically backward to the life of rural days. In 1900 every seventh American lived in a city of more than 250,000 people and every twelfth American lived in Chicago, New York or Philadelphia. The city bustled with new inventions. Chicago built the skyscraper and Brooklyn her bridge. Commercial electric lights, the subway, telephone, asphalt streets and even the automobile improved city life. Cities began to cope with problems of a central water supply and a source for garbage disposal; both of these were contemporary problems in Rochester.

The trends of the larger cities were present in our community. Immigration streamed past Ellis Island; the trains frequently making stops here with workers for the clothing industry. The local press exploited Yellow journalism by an exposé of gambling dens. The average man found that the daily newspaper appealed to his sympathies.

The opulent read Scribner's Magazine and Harper's Weekly. The very wealthy also enjoyed the elegance of the grand Victorian styles, while the middle class modeled their parlors after the new styles but in a less formal manner.

Women appeared as part of the working force. They labored at the machine in the garment factory, held positions as telephone operators and sales clerks. They exerted their influence in feminist movements. Susan B.



Art Glass popular in the Gilded Age.

Anthony campaigned for woman suffrage and pounded at the doors of the University of Rochester to beg for the admission of women. In Chicago at Hull House, Jane Addams ministered to the poor and the idea of the settlement house was born. Women even participated in organized college gymnastics and exercised at tennis, golf and bicycling. Fashions for the cyclist were popularized by the Gibson Girl.

The middle class found recreational outlets. Thousands paraded to Coney Island on Sunday afternoons and Rochesterians carried their picnic baskets to the resort and Ontario beach area of Charlotte.

Rochester, too, mirrored the Gilded Age. It contributed inventions such as the voting machine, Pulver gum machine, transfer and mail chute. The growth of the city, contributions of immigrants, famous women of the feminist movements, the Victorian home, leisure-time activities and reading material portray this flamboyant period in our exhibit.



Formation flight of Canada Geese.

Drawing by Jerry H. Czech.

Springtime Waterfowl

Jerry H. Czech Assistant Curator of Biology

> Gone forever are the days of springtime waterfowl shooting when masses of returning ducks, geese and swans were slaughtered along their flyways. Because of conservation measures, we may still enjoy seeing the annual flights, even though in many cases, we see only a fraction of what our ancestors saw. The sound and sight of wild geese in spring will always thrill me even if I've seen them a thousand times before, and I hope this opportunity for excitement never ceases. To me, the sight of ducks on a freshly thawed pond is as much a sign of renewed life as the first backvard robin of spring.

The geese, of which most are the Canada goose variety, have long been admired for their formation flying. The true "V" is sometimes attained, but more often a wavering crescent is seen. In most cases the geese change position in the flock, and the leaders may no longer be the leaders an instant later.

While the slow wingbeat gives one a distorted impression of how fast these birds fly, their actual speed is great—usually between 45-65 miles per hour. Apparently they have a degree of control over their speed as lagging individuals in a formation are capable of rapidly pulling up into their proper place. I've often seen flocks far too high to be disturbed by activity on the ground flare and pick up speed for no evident reason, and I've never been able to give myself a satisfactory explanation as to why this happens.

People living in western New York have an ideal opportunity to observe geese at close range since both the Iroquois and Montezuma National Refuge areas have thousands of geese stopping during late March and April. Early morning is one of the best times to see the geese in flight as they return from feeding in nearby fields.

The only wild swan we can look for in any numbers is the whistling swan. A few European mute swans show up once in a while, but these are usually birds which escaped from zoos and parks, or their descendants, and are most apt to be seen along the Hudson River and on Long Island. The rare trumpeter swan is a western bird.

Swans may also be seen at Iroquois and Montezuma National Refuge, as well as at most any other place where geese are found, but their numbers are never too great. I got my first glimpse of the beauty of swans in flight when a flock of 60 flew over Scottsville, N. Y. in almost perfect "V" formation last spring. They flew parallel to the road for some distance at what seemed to be an easy pace of about 60 miles per hour. It was a wonderful sight and nearly everyone stopped whatever he was doing to gaze until the birds disappeared from view. Birds as impressive as these swans obviously appealed to more than just the everyday "swanwatcher," but people interested in seeing swans other than by accident might do well to visit the mentioned areas in late March and early April.

Some waterfowl are adapted for diving to considerable depths to obtain aquatic foods, and many of these diving ducks such as scaup, redheads and goldeneves can survive quite well as long as open water is available to them. A number of these ducks may be found along Lake Ontario's shores in winter as well as canvasbacks, old squaws, scoters and the fish-eating mergansers. All these birds dive well, often going many feet underwater and staying down 15 seconds or more in order to obtain food. While the ruddy ducks, scoters and eiders technically belong in separate groups I would include them among the divers and in a general article such as this, it would be impractical to consider them otherwise. Many times, I've managed to sneak right up to a feeding goldeneye by hiding behind tree trunks and advancing while he was underwater. Most of these divers can go down 40 feet or more and the old squaw is reputed to have dived to as much as 180 feet.

While some of these birds remain on the deeper bodies of water throughout winter in New York State, many others do migrate further south. In late February through early May a rise and fall in their numbers may be observed as the returning flocks stop on their way to the breeding areas in central and northwestern Canada. Many of these migrants spend the winter in Atlantic coastal bays.

The ducks that migrate from this area in winter are those of the surface-feeding group often called pond, puddle or dabbling ducks. This group includes the black, mallard, shoveller, teal, pintail, gadwall and baldpate. The wood duck is usually included, but it technically is a member of the perching ducks due to physical and habitual characteristics.

All the puddle ducks can dive if necessary, but they are not nearly as accomplished at doing so as are the true divers which have larger feet placed further aft in relation to their bodies. The typical feeding procedure of these birds is to paddle or wade in shallow water while putting bill, head or most of their body underwater in search of plant and animal materials. When the water gets too deep for them to reach the bottom with bill, head and neck, they tip forward by pushing with their feet until only rump, tail and feet may be seen. (Geese, and particularly swans, also feed in this manner.)

When you consider that shallows in a body of water are the first areas to freeze, you can understand why ducks feeding in this manner must migrate or face starvation. The sick or injured seldom make it.

Teal, gadwalls, shovellers and wood ducks are among the first to leave in the fall and, as one might expect, among the later to arrive back in



Black Ducks on a day in Spring.

Watercolor by Jerry H. Czech.



Canvasbacks, North American Wild Ducks, in April.

Watercolor by Jerry H. Czech.

spring. Their northward migration reaches a peak in April and early May, although some may be seen as early as late March. The hardy mallards and blacks usually can be seen in good numbers during March and early April.

Where open water exists in a shallow condition many blacks and mallards remain all winter. Sometimes large numbers may be found along certain stretches of the upper Hudson River where shallow, fast-moving water generally prevents much freezing. Nearly all the ducks I examined in these areas were feeding on sewage, and a strong chemical odor was present in crops and gizzards of the birds. The food apparently agreed with them, regardless of possible ill effects

later, as seven blacks and mallards ranged in weight from 3 pounds, 3 ounces to 4 pounds, 1 ounce. In fact, the ducks congregate around sewer outlets and one may easily observe them there if they don't mind the obvious disadvantages!

When observing mallards in harsh weather, it would be wise to consider the possibility of partially domesticated game-farm or "park" ducks. These birds tend to lose some degree of the migration urge, and the expert can detect subtle plumage changes, etc. that identify them as such—the amateur can easily be fooled.

In spring the puddle ducks invade marshy areas as soon as the ice breaks and open patches of water are present. Diving ducks may congregate in large flocks, or "rafts" but the surface groups usually limit their numbers to smaller flocks and they tend to be more wide-spread, using all available ponds, marshes, streams and rivers. While most divers nest elsewhere, many puddle ducks remain here to breed, and it's a fair possibility that many of these ducks you see in small marshes are thinking of setting up "house-keeping."

I know that if my favorite Brighton, N. Y. marsh hasn't been drained or filled with dirt since I last saw it, March and April will again be a joyful time of year this spring. The sight of ducks landing on a pond makes me hope their home remains forever. There's something wild and free about the ducks that stop and move on, while those that remain help serve as a reminder that fall will bring them back again.

As man spreads his population across the land, more and more marshlands fall prey to the opportunists and developers. This land is sold inexpensively and man likes the money a housing development will bring. After all, he's doing something for mankind and getting rich at the same time! What a pity that so many things that make life worth living for people have to be destroyed.

The potential of every small marsh is almost totally ruined, as far as wild-life is concerned, once it is drained. Even one pair of mallards could produce, at the end of two years, over 70 ducks counting their offspring and offspring's offspring, if 10 out of every brood survived. This is purely potential, for normally many less would survive, but nevertheless, it is a potential. As conservationists have found, habitat is the best key to success for many wild animals, and it's up to us to see that we don't ruin habitat need-

lessly. If ducks, geese and swans were to disappear, I'm afraid that a valuable part of my habitat would be lost also.

Ssh! Quiet Please

Melissa E. Bingeman, an alert and modern-as-tomorrow lady of 90, writes us about noise. Safety and health hazards as they relate to the individual and to the community as a whole have been her concern practically all of her life. And she researches her concerns with consuming interest and intensive depth.

In the June 1952 issue of Museum Service, she wrote about "A New Approach to the Noise Problem" and the extent and potential harm that unwanted, troublesome noise can do. Then in the September 1962 issue she explored "Noise in the Space Age," and posed the question, "What new problems, if any, have appeared with the dawning of the Space Age?"

An article that appeared in the Democrat and Chronicle last October under the headline "Jet Noise Will Get Worse," reminded Miss Bingeman of her closing sentence in that 1962 article, "How the future will deal with noise in the space age can be told only in some, as yet, unborn Tomorrow!" This is now that "unborn Tomorrow."

Miss Bingeman is a Fellow of Rochester Museum in the field of Hydrography and Community Service. She is also a Fellow and Life Member of the Rochester Academy of Science. Her thought-provoking articles have appeared in the *Proceedings* of the Rochester Academy of Science, in *Museum Service*, in local newspapers and have been reprinted in other areas.

Rochester's Hidden Asset

Like so many American cities, Rochester has neglected its greatest natural asset, the river. Much of the river within the city limits flows through a beautiful gorge and there are two waterfalls partially hidden from view.

The Rochester Society of Architects proposes to do something about this in a special exhibit titled, "The Genesee." Architectural plans, drawings, photographs and models will show the beauty of the river and the design potential which it offers. This will be on view on the first floor of the museum from April 21 to May 7.

The Society's exhibition committee, headed by Chairman Martin Fredrickson, has set itself the mammoth task of proposing some changes which would bring the Genesee River into the City and allow people to take full advantage of its natural beauty.

With the realization that architecture is an unknown art, came the idea of an annual exhibition that would be of community-wide interest. This was established about five years ago by the Rochester Society. Early exhibitions centered around the meaning of architecture, then came the notably successful showing of "The Good House" followed by "The Ugly Face of Rochester."

The tenet of Jefferson that architecture is the most important of the arts "because it shows so much," will be borne out in the exhibit, "The Genesee."

25th Anniversary

The Women's Council of the Rochester Museum Association will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a reception on Friday, April 14, from four to six o'clock in the main hall of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences.

Plans are now in progress for a tremendous celebration. Members of the Rochester Museum Association, and especially new members, will be honored guests at this affair.

It will also be the occasion of paying special tribute to the ten presidents who so ably served the Women's Council and reviewing their special programs, noting the diversification of their interests as the Museum Association has grown to 3,250 members.

Much thought and preparation is going into this event which is being headed by Mrs. Robert F. Edgerton, president and Mrs. William B. Hale, II, vice-president, as general co-chairmen, assisted by Mrs. John Roche, in charge of invitations; Mrs. Allen Macomber, reservations; Mrs. John B. Ireland, hospitality; Mrs. Roland Connors and Mrs. David D. Somers, decorations and theme; Mrs. Henry M. Klein, Jr., entertainment and Mrs. Somers and Mrs. Mable S. Smith, publicity.

Many committees are working together to make this a gala tribute to our wonderfully expanding Museum soon to incorporate the Strasenburgh Planetarium in its growing complex.

When the Craftsman Becomes the Artist

Elizabeth S. Porter Registrar

The craftsman constructs the objects of his trade from the raw materials of his choice. Beginning with wood, the American settlers whittled and carved household equipment from the abundant natural resource that surrounded them. The kitchen, as the hub of activity, was supplied with such elementary articles as the match holder, cookie cutter and butter mold.

As utilitarian objects, these not only served a particular purpose but also became forms of decoration in the early American home. For instance, the wooden match holder in the design of the eagle was a symbol designating the independence of the Colonies from English control. The floral design of the cookie cutter was inspired by the natural beauty of the new land. The full-bloom pattern of ripe corn carved into the butter mold provided a decorative source of enjoyment as it was daily imprinted upon a

basic food.

Surely the essential implements could have been just as utilitarian in the crudest form, but the American craftsman was self inspired to carry his ability one step further. By taking pride in his craft, he became the selfmade artist through the application of adornment and decoration however simple in design. Technically the early craft of wood carving is interpreted as artistic because there is evidence of creativity inspired by the imagination of the individual.

The blacksmith also applied his craftsmanship to wrought and cast iron creating household implements of lasting quality. The trivet, flatiron, toaster, candlestick and coffee grinder are but a few of many such objects. These utilitarian objects could have fulfilled their roles in rough form, but again they were of simple beauty created by an inspired craftsman.

The contributing factors of inspiration are diverse. Let us say that the tangents of inspiration extend from two poles. One is in the form of symbols from the fatherlands, such as the trivets in the design of the French "fleur-de-lis" and the German "heart." At the other pole there is the new American spirit-young, dynamic, an explorative force of national independence. The curved and twisted adornment of the toaster, the cut pattern of the coffee grinder, the fluted spiral of the Betty lamp and flatiron handles and the slender lines of the andirons demonstrate this feeling.

The craftsman's pride in his work, coupled with the inherent love of natural beauty led to artistic endeavors which today are titled Folk Art. The examples of wood and iron are a few of the objects of our heritage which give testimony of when the craftsman became an artist.



Household implements—Toaster (center), trivets (left) German "heart" design, (right) French "fleur-de-lis."

Gifts to the Museum December 1966, January 1967

Mrs. Robert Banister

A presentation sword and a Dansville, N. Y. Fireman's hat.

Mr. Earl Bowman

A goose feather wreath.

Mrs. Lois Wing Bulterman

Collection of personal accessories, kitchen utensils, costume jewelry, clothing of the early 20th century and 3 carpenter's planes.

Mr. Anthony L. Cecere

Indian skeleton from burial at Gorham, N. Y.

Mrs. Carlos de Zafra, Jr.

Collection of textiles, two curling irons, hairpins, kid gloves, posters, a Mc-Kinley campaign ticket, a "B. M. Hyde Drug Co." box.

Mr. Elisha Dyer

Collection of 19th century laces.

Mrs. Leah Wheeler Freeman

Collection of clothing, ca. 1850's-70's, textiles, photographs, a book of hair, an autograph album, ca. 1849.

Mrs. Ellis Gay

Embroidered linen dresser scarf.

Mr. Jack Herman

Army medical uniform of World War I.

Mrs. E. Henry Keutmann

Pair of spectacles, ca. 1812.

Mr. H. J. Kielson

A box of "Dopp's Swiss Brand Herb Tea" and "Lane's Family Medicine Tea."

Mrs. Ethel Wilburn Knapp

An 1865 cradle, fishing poles and net, ca. 1870, homespun blanket, two original cartoons by Clubb, an Indian drum, a physician's street permit pin, ca. 1900.

Miss Rosemary Leary

Twenty-nine issues of the "Beaver" magazine.

Mrs. Monica Brayer Mason Four hatpins,

Mr. and Mrs. Allen P. Mills

Collecton of clothing, ca. 1880's, lace, textiles, material, two fans, mourning accessories, personal articles, two perfume bottles, a mirror, a leather writing case, paper dolls, a pottery crock, collection plate, baskets, tin candlestick and utensils.

Mrs. Lewis B. Mills 1966 Towel Calendar.

Mr. Equen Meader A reticule, ca. 1880.

Mrs. Harvey F. Morris
Black fishue and a child's dress.

Mrs, Charles F. Payne Collection of Briton pottery, ca. 1960's.

Mr. Paul E. Murray Pair of spectacles.

Mr. Paul Rokos Pair of spectacles, ca. 1910.

Mr. William J. Schenk Collection of tinsmith's tools.

Miss Wilma J. Shili

Collection of 1967 calendars and a pair of spectacles.

Mrs. Frank G. Smith

Collection of 1966 calendars and a Farmer's Almanac.

Superba Cravats, Inc. Man's tie, 1966 design.

Mrs. Jerome Weltzer

A 1966 Christmas edition of Sear's Catalogue, Sibley's catalogue, and a Spring and Summer Naum Bros. Inc. catalogue.

Mr. Charles Yelton Collection of four fossils.

Book Review

Winter Science Activities. By John M. Youngpeter. Illustrated by Gardner J. Ryan. (Holiday House, New York, 1966. Pp. 128. \$2.95.)

Science can be enjoyed outdoors even in winter! Nature can really be discovered during this cold season. To challenge young people to share in the excitement of nature in winter, John M. Youngpeter has included seventy science projects and experiments in his new book Winter Science Activities. These projects will encourage the young scientist to make biological and physical explorations of his environment even on the coldest days. For there are wintry fields of weeds and the water beneath an icy pond to examine and explore. Winter, the little-known season, is a new time to measure growing plants, take temperatures of the soil and poke at a hibernating insect.

Wintertime experiments include activities with animals, plants, weather, stars, water, ice and snow. The principles of the experiments are frequently elaborated upon in clear, precise writing with excellent drawings by Gardner J. Ryan which help the reader visualize his projects. However, the student is encouraged to find his *own* answers to all the experiments. Many questions are posed, but no answers are given.

Readers below the fourth grade may need assistance with the reading, but still will be able to try most of the activities. Parents will also find the book useful for family outings.

Mothers of prospective naturalists will like the suggestions for easy to care for unusual winter pets. For example, ant colonies can be located under a rock or moss and collected for the observation of ant development. Aquatic larvae, that are active in cold water, can be examined under a magnifying glass. A cricket, which will sing all winter, will also act as a thermometer, since crickets give more chirps per minute the higher the temperature. They survive on wet dog biscuits and crumbs.

Another activity that will be popular is the examination of the ground before it is frozen. Mud along the shores of ponds will show evidences of frogs and turtles. Slight depressions in the ground indicate a home of these hibernating animals. What are the effects of waking the animal from hibernation and returning it to the ground? The young scientist must determine this by observation, "sizing up" the situation, setting up the experiments and testing his ideas. Sketching and keeping a notebook are also essential.

Most of the experiments do not require special materials; household supplies and a few inexpensive scientific aids are adequate. Directions for building cages are simplified to allow children to do the work themselves. Even the preparation of a small animal skeleton or skinning an animal, such as a mouse, is possible.

The many projects in this book will challenge the curious child and stimulate the scientifically inclined youngster to search for a new fascinating world in winter.

Illustrated Lectures

Travel Tracks—"Rochesterians Explore the World"

Wed., March 8, 8:15 p.m. HAWAIIAN HOLIDAY Al Sisson Wed., April 12, 8:15 p.m. AUSTRALIA'S GREAT BARRIER REEF Sherwood W. Smith

Audubon Wildlife Films-"Youth Series"

Sat., April 8, 1967 WINGS OF THE WILD . . . Alvah W. Sanborn

Saturday Youth Activities

Spring Series-April 15-May 20

Registration: April 1, 9:30-11:30 a.m. April 3-7, 9:30 to 3 p.m.

Morning and afternoon classes. American Indians, Animals, People of Other Lands, Microscopic Life, Japanese and Chinese Crafts, Geology Adventures, Prehistoric Animals, Insects.

Special Exhibitions

Plant Portraits. Water-color paintings of pharmaceutical plants by Ida H. Pemberton. Lent by University of Colorado Museum. Through March Insects from Close-Up. Photographs in black and white by Harry F. Brevoort of insects seldom seen and at unusual angles. Mar. 10-Apr. 10

Birds' Eggs. From Ostrich to Humming Bird; also Mounted Land Birds. Through June

The Red and The Gray. Comparison of measurements, food, and habitat of red and gray foxes and squirrels.

March-May

The Genesee. Beautification of Genesee River in drawings, photographs and models presented by the Rochester Society of Architects, A.I.A. April 21-May 7

Mezzanine The Gilded Age-1880-1910. Social, political and economic events of this gaudy period in the Rochester Area. March-June

Library East Avenue in Retrospect. Pictorial review of the peaceful, turbulent, glamorous and glorious time of the Avenue. Through April

2nd Floor Weed Portraits. Watercolors by Mary Virginia Roberts of flowers and plants commonly referred to as "weeds" of San Francisco County.

March-April

Srd Floor Iron in the Service of Man. Early history and cast and wrought iron objects of domestic utensils, architectural designs, tools, toys and furniture.

April 6-September

Meetings in the Museum

Academy of Science		
Astronomy Section	1st Friday, OctJune	8 p.m.
Botany Section	2nd Tuesday, NovMarch	8 p.m.
Mineral Section	3rd Tuesday, OctMay (No meeting in December)	8 p.m.
Ornithology Section	2nd Wednesday, SeptJune	
Antiquarian League	4th Tuesday, OctApril (No meeting in December)	8 p.m.
Antiquarian Study Group	2nd Friday, Oct,-April	1:30 p.m.
Aquarium Society	1st Wednesday, SeptJune	8 p.m.
Burroughs Audubon Nature Club	2nd and 4th Friday, NovApr. (No meeting in December)	8 p.m.
Button Club	3rd Tuesday, SeptMay	I p.m.
Dahlia Society	1st Thursday, SeptJune	8 p.m.
Genesee Cat Fanciers Club	1st Wednesday, SeptJune	8 p.m.
Genesee Valley Antique Car Society	3rd Friday, NovApr. (No meeting in January)	8 p.m.
Genesee Valley Gladiolus Society	3rd Thursday, SeptJune	8 p.m.
Genesee Valley Quilt Club	Last Thursday, SeptMay (3rd Thursday, NovDec.)	10:30 a.m.
Hobby Council	2nd Tuesday, SeptMay	8 p.m.
Jr. Numismatic Club	3rd Friday, SeptJune	7:30 p.m.
Jr. Philatelic Club	1st and 3rd Thursday, SeptMay	7:30 p.m.
Monroe County Hooked Rug Guild	3rd Wednesday, SeptMay	10 a.m.
Morgan Chapter, N.Y.S.A.A.	2nd Friday, SeptJune	7:30 p.m.
Numismatic Ass'n	2nd and 4th Tuesday, SeptJune	8 p.m.
Philatelic Ass'n	2nd and 4th Thursday, SeptJune	8 p.m.
Rochester Rose Society	1st Tuesday, OctJune	8 p.m.
Seneca Zoological Society	3rd Tuesday, SeptMay	8 p.m.

SUNDAY FAMILY PROGRAMS—Movies 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.

March 5	Grand Canyon and The Buddhist World	
March 12	Belgium and Conserving Our Forests Today	
March 19	Medieval Times: Role of the Church and Land of the Swiss	
March 26	EASTER SUNDAY-MUSEUM CLOSED	
April 2	The Story of the Mourning Dove	
April 9	Mirror of America	
April 16	Portrait of Mexico and Mexican Maize	
April 23	Homes Around the World and Japan: Miracle in Asia	
April 30	Cast Iron: Biography of a Metal and Klee Wyck (Laughing One)	

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MUSEUM ASSOCIATION EVENTS

THE MUSEUM SHOP

Come in and browse through our many new educational toys for youngsters...or choose party favors for young and old from a large assortment of new items...or anticipate Spring with one of our outdoor ceramics.

Open: Monday through Friday— 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday—10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Sunday-2 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

MUSEUM ON THE MENU

Thursday Noon Talks, Films and Demonstrations 12:15 to 12:50 p.m.

March 16—Portrait of a Medalist

March 23—The Gilded Age by Robert W. Frasch

March 30—Stonehenge Decoded by Richard Karlson

April 6—Iron in the Service of Man by Alan R. Mahl

April 13—Hawks for the Balance by Jerry H. Czech

April 20—Planetariums Around the World by Ian C. McLennan

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MAN

Astronomy (Five Lectures)
Wednesdays, 8 to 9:30 p.m., starting
March 15.

Bird Spotting Field Course (Ten Field Trips) Saturdays, starting April 8, 6:30 a.m. at area sites except first session.

Geology of the Genesee Valley (Four Lectures) Tuesdays 8 to 9:30 p.m. Two Saturday field trips by bus.

History in the Third Dimension (Six Lectures) Wednesdays, 8 to 9:30 p.m., starting March 29.

Iroquois Life and Folklore (Eight Lectures) Tuesdays, 8 to 9:30 p.m., starting March 28.

> 25th Anniversary of the Women's Council Friday, April 14, 4 to 6 p.m.

Honoring New Members of the Rochester Museum Association

Annual Members' Meeting Wednesday, March 29, 8:15 p.m.

Astronaut lecture by Capt. Charles M. Duke, Jr. NASA astronaut assigned to the Apollo Team